

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—It does seem queer that this nation has been in existence for over a century and is still without a system of finance. I used to believe that we had one, but I have learned better. The system which I once thought belonged to the country is the property of Mr. Carlisle, and just now all Washington and the whole fraternity of New York bankers are wondering what he is going to do with it. I have only seen or heard of one man, Senator Stewart, who seems to think that the people in general are at all concerned or ought to be conferred with regarding the proposed issuance of bonds. In every instance where men of prominence are interviewed concerning the present financial flurry they go on to speculate as to what Mr. Carlisle is going to do. Some people seem to think that Mr. Carlisle will issue bonds; some think he will not. Some venture to prophesy that Mr. Carlisle will stop paying out gold and will poke off the plebeian silver dollar on the poor victimized aristocrats who have been all along led to believe that coin payment meant gold payment. Ah! there is a shocking state of suspense prevalent in this section. There is only one thing thoroughly clear about the whole system of finance, and that is, that Mr. Carlisle is bossing it, whether he is sole owner and proprietor or not. I have noticed one little straw that seemed to indicate that perhaps Mr. Cleveland is on confidential terms with Mr. Carlisle, and possibly he may have heard the Treasury Man give some hint as to his purposes. Mr. Belmont, of the banking firm of Belmont & Co., is quoted as saying that he has "information from the highest source (which must mean President Cleveland) that Mr. Carlisle will not order the payment of treasury notes in silver." This is the sole instance of which I can learn where the "highest source" has given out any information. It is quite probable that the report is authentic, as the Jewish bankers, Belmont, are in high favor with the Highest Source, as their recent appointment as United States naval agents for England shows.

That there is a purpose on the part of the government (i. e., Grover Cleveland, Mr. Carlisle and the New York bankers) to issue bonds, I have not a shadow of doubt. That this purpose is carried on with all of the secrecy of a conspiracy is proof that the plotters against the people dare not at once announce their infamous design. The people must first be hoodwinked into a panic over some awful and unfathomable internal derangement of the financial system. They must be hoodwinked into the belief that Mr. Carlisle is having an awful hard time trying to find out some safe remedy for the threatened attack; he must be pictured as wrestling with the problem as to whether it will be best to apply the necessary restorative to the sick "system" with a gold spoon or a silver spoon, and press dispatches must tell how mad the wicked New York bankers are at poor Mr. Carlisle. Then after sufficient muddled twaddle has been uttered to confuse the average voter, Mr. Carlisle will discover that he was "forced by the exigencies of the unparalleled situation" to resort to the issuance of bonds.

A little learned talk about the parity between the two metals will have reduced the populace to such a state of despondency that they will be ready to give up the whole conundrum and let the good Mr. Carlisle manage his system just as he and the other learned doctors think best.

The statement made by Mr. Carlisle on yesterday (April 20) was a most in-

genious evasion of the bond question. I spent a good share of the forenoon endeavoring to make out just what his intentions were, and I was pleased to discover that I was not the only bewildered student of that document. The New York World interpreted it to mean that Mr. Carlisle would pay the treasury notes in silver, while the New York Sun gathered just the reverse information. The New York Times declared that the statement "did not say anything." Mr. Carlisle will earn the title of Artful Dodger if he sends out other like statements without a key.

Shortly before J. Pierpont Morgan, the New York banker, sailed for Europe, he visited Washington and was in consultation with Mr. Carlisle. It was whispered about at that time that Mr. Morgan's errand was to secure the promise of a bond issue which he would dispose of on his trip abroad. The rumor was flatly denied, but it was probably correct.

The public sentiment which is being systematically worked up in favor of an issue of bonds, is shown by the following quotations:

New York Press: "If the emergency should ever arise when this government needs a few millions, or even a few hundred millions of European gold, it has only to reach out its bonds with one hand and to receive the gold in the other."

Philadelphia Record: "Should a loan become necessary it might be expedient to put it on the money markets of Europe, whither the gold of this country is now flowing."

New York World: "We are losing gold to Europe at the rate of a million or so a week. But should the necessity arise we can at any time turn the current the reverse way by inserting the siphon of a bond issue into the European market."

President Van Norden, of the Bank of North America, says: "The only way the government can maintain its \$100,000,000 reserve is by the sale of bonds. Its bonds could be sold with the greatest facility. They should be sold abroad. In England they would be taken eagerly."

President Williams, of the Chemical National bank of New York, says: "I think the government will endeavor to the best of its ability to restore any impairment of the reserve. Bonds would be rapidly floated."

"That the government has some sort of intentions regarding a bond issue," says the New York Sun, "is indicated in published interviews with Secretary Carlisle. It may be added that a small issue of bonds, should one be decided upon, would not meet the views of the bankers who have offered to co-operate with the government in placing them to the best advantage, both here and abroad. Their idea is that the issue should be large enough to build up a gold reserve that would preclude a future revival of apprehension regarding the condition of the treasury should the present silver law continue in force for some time to come. While these plans, concerning which the public has heretofore known nothing definitely, remain in abeyance, Wall street and a few hysterical writers upon financial matters continue to dwell upon 'an impending crisis' and 'the difficulties of the treasury.'"

There never was a more stupendous fraud than the present juggling effort to make the people believe that the business interest of the country demands or would be benefited by the bond issue. As Senator Stewart said yesterday: "Our government manages its finances for the accommodation of speculators in gold; it is at the beck and call of the money changers."

Senator Plumb once declared that Wall street and the United States treasury were in partnership.

How much longer will the masses of sovereign voters of this country aid and support this Wall street demo-republican conspiracy against the legitimate business of the nation?

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The great naval review is the subject

of much social interest. Many of the dignitaries and their families have left Washington for that center of festivity, Fortress Monroe. The United States ship Dolphin, which is styled the president's yacht, has been so transformed and improved that it is said "She is a regular floating palace and easily the finest yacht in the world. Neither the czarowitch nor the Duke of Edinburgh has a finer." It is in this floating palace that the president, his cabinet and the officers of the United States navy will banquet the visiting foreign celebrities. The superb dining room is equipped with the daintiest table appointments, cut glass, delicate crystal and shell-like china. It is to be hoped that President Cleveland will not revert at any time during the feasting to his inaugural declaration that "lack of economy and frugality are sapping strength and sturdiness from our national character." It might suggest to some of the "nation's guests" the unpleasant reflection that the president discountenanced the lavish expenditure of public treasure involved in their entertainment. It is reported that the display of feminine toilets, and likewise feminine bare necks and arms, at the hops and receptions on board the boats exceeds even the Washington society display. I am certain that the ladies of rank who compose this festive throng would be shocked by the indelicacy involved in going to the polls.

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I took a stroll recently through the gun shop of the Washington navy yard. It was a sorry spectacle to watch the skilled laborers, the ponderous and costly machinery engaged in making those huge murderous guns. There were hundreds of all sizes from the six-inch up to the thirteen-inch gun, sixteen feet long, capable of sending its death-dealing missile thirteen miles. What a monstrous iniquity is all this employment of brain and brawn in the construction of instruments for killing and mutilating human beings. But it must go on, and the millions of public treasure must be appropriated "or it will not be possible to keep the steel industries alive," and then where would Mr. Carnegie get money to found public libraries?

Apropos to the claim above mentioned it is significant to notice the threatened failure of the immense steel factories at Steelton, Pa., and Sparrow's Point, Md. The professed cause being the present financial scare and the refusal of the New York banks holding the companies securities to renew their notes. One of two things is true, either these steel industries are embarrassed and in danger of failure, which would throw 4,000 men out of employment, or the whole newspaper report is part of a financial conspiracy and intended to work the public into a belief that the demand of the banks for gold payment and bond issuance is in the interest of the workingmen. The latter theory is not at all unlikely. It would not be at all strange were the banks to refuse loans purposely to disturb public credit and to create an apparent justification of their demands. And the pretense of inability to loan may be quite an understood thing between the banks and the steel companies. It might even be a shrewd move to go far enough to shut down the mills for a short time. The consequent distress among the "protected and prosperous workingmen" would be a strong card to play.

But should the embarrassment of these factories be real and not sham, would not that fact puncture the pretense that congressional appropriations for the navy can keep them from going under? Would it not prove conclusively

that the paternalism of congressional appropriation is useless so long as their tenure of prosperity is dependent upon so precarious a financial system as that which was bequeathed by Mr. Foster to Mr. Carlisle? What safety is there for any large enterprise, no matter how largely protected, subsidized or paternalized, so long as the whole structure of national finance is "managed for the accommodation of speculators in gold?"

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The great naval review will doubtless give a large impulse to the sentiment which clamors for a superb "national navy second to none in the world." For many years this military sentiment has been adroitly pushed by interested schemers of two sorts. One set is interested chiefly in the jobbery from which huge fortunes have grown, and still another set, conscienceless, soulless, are bent on making a "strong government." Which means that when the masses of laborers cease to be fools enough to drudge (and vote) for the monied classes, there will be a military power under command of our paternal government ready to subjugate them.

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Within the past week Mr. Rao, a Chicago attorney, has been in this city and has obtained from the secretary of war permission to build a fort on the lake shore within the limits of Chicago. Permission has been granted to establish a military training school at this fort, to equip it with all necessary appliances and to make it the permanent place for the great Krupp gun which is to be on exhibition at the World's Fair. With the Krupp gun once mounted and manned in that vicinity, the railroad fellows better "watch out or the goblins will get 'em" if they venture to suggest that they would like shorter hours or a little more pay.

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It may gratify the Kansas people to learn that the Russian government has at length manifested a sign of appreciation of the growing military character of the United States government, and so the czar has sent for the first time in the history of our nation, a military attache to the Russian legation at Washington. It is stated that the attache, Capt. Mertvago, was detailed for this service because the Russian government desires to observe and report the progress of military achievement in this country.

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The junketing season has opened with the announcement that on May 5 the Chickamauga and Chattanooga national park commissioners will meet at Chickamauga and consult concerning the military park at that place, for which provision was made by congress.

The California junketers who are going out to see just where the California people want their deep water harbor built, will not leave for a month or so. They desire to stop off at the World's Fair. But no doubt these gentlemen and their families will emulate the example of former congressional junketers and "spend no more money than is absolutely necessary." ANNIE L. DICKS.

Speaking of the strike of the Santa Fe shop men, the Topeka Capital, a corporation republican paper, says that "when men strike on such whimsical grounds as in the present case there is little inducement for people with money to establish industries and increase the demand for labor." In about 300 or 400 years some of the Kansas republican papers will learn that labor creates a demand for capital and that labor employs capital as well as capital employs labor.—Wichita Beacon, April 24.